

To ...
Western Port Writes

A Big Thankyou

From ...
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<https://picsvictoria.org.au/events/>



Images Terry Melvin, Laura Brearley



A Big Thank You

I was delighted to participate in the inaugural and wonderful Western Port Writes Festival held on the Mornington Peninsula. Thank you for the invitation to be part of this special event. I loved being there.



WESTERN
PORT
WRITES

READERS
& WRITERS
SHARING
STORIES

FESTIVAL PROGRAM 6-8 SEPTEMBER 2024









FISH FESTIVAL
14-16 SEPTEMBER 2024

FISH FESTIVAL
14-16 SEPTEMBER 2024

OCTOPUSES

THE BIG FISH

THE FISH MARKET

THE FISH MARKET





Across the Waters

Music /Lyrics Laura Brearley

<https://soundcloud.com/laura-brearley/across-the-waters>

All connected across the waters

Looking out from where we are

All connected across the waters

Reaching out near and far

We're all connected ...

Here, there and everywhere



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COOLART

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be curious

Coolart Wetlands & Homestead
Somers, Victoria, Australia.





Western Port Writes brought people together of all ages to celebrate their community, their love of writing and their commitment to caring for Western Port Bay (Warn Marin) and the living world more broadly.

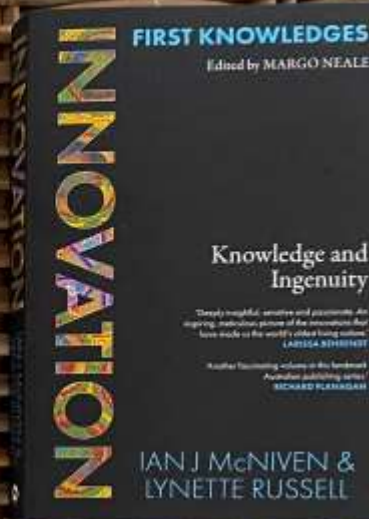
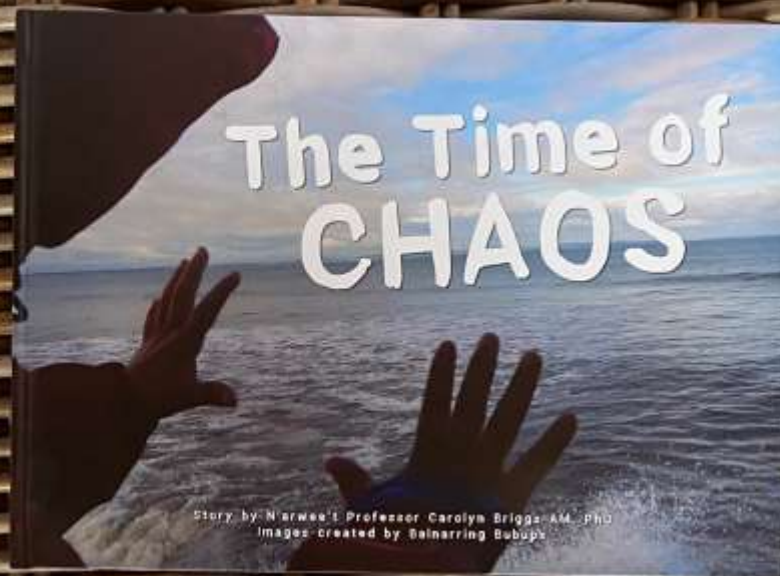













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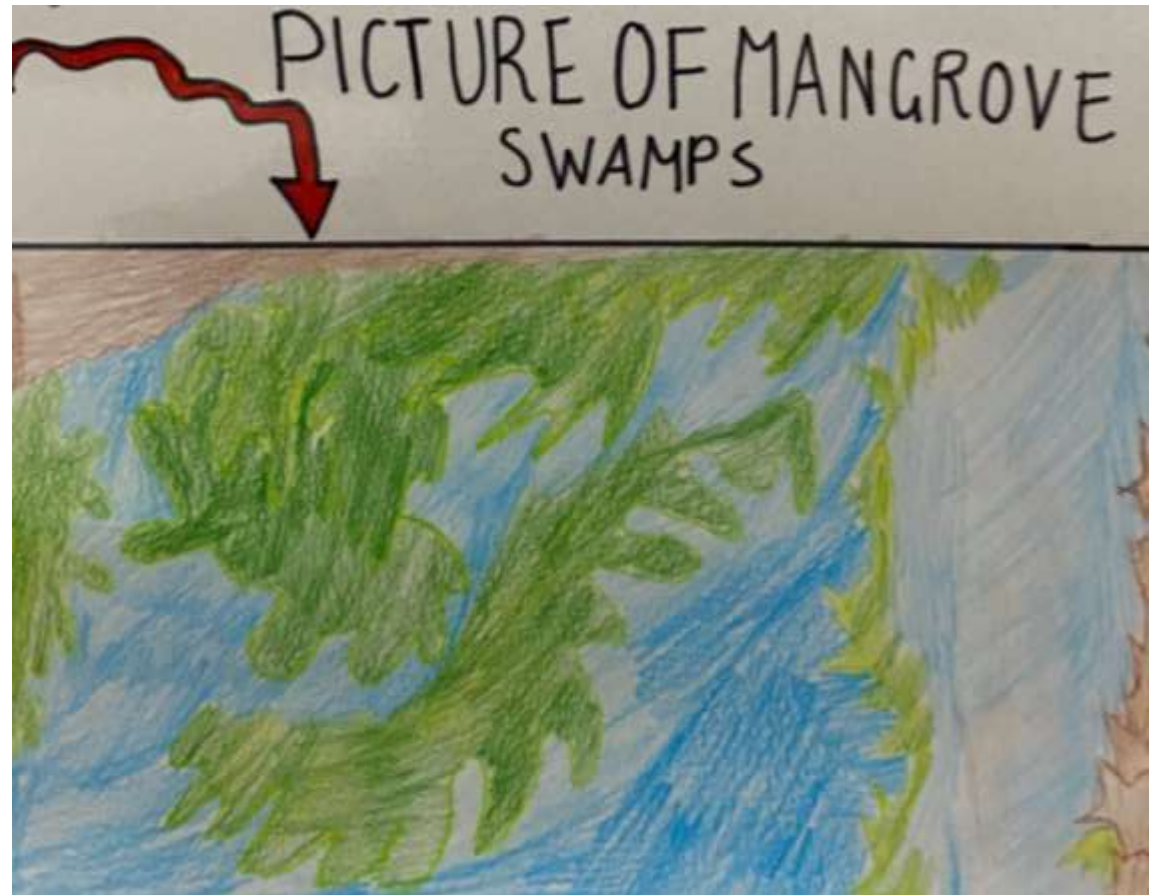
A close-up photograph of a pine branch. The branch is covered in vibrant green, needle-like leaves that are densely packed. Several small, brown, fuzzy cones are visible, some in sharp focus and others blurred. The background is a bright, out-of-focus mix of white and blue, suggesting a sunny day with a clear sky. The lighting is bright, creating a high-contrast scene with some lens flare effects.

The Festival program was diverse,
superbly organised and supported
by a capable team of local volunteers.



I was really impressed with the strong contribution from local school children and teachers, showing their love and understanding of Western Port Bay (Warn Marin).

The quality of the children's creative work displayed around the walls of the Balnarring Hall was extraordinary.



Guy



Migratory Shorebirds

St Joseph's School, Crib Point



Grey-Headed Flying Fox



Charlotte
St Mary's Primary School

A Grey-Headed Flying Fox is one of the endangered animals in Western Port Bay, which is where I call home. They are endangered because their habitat is disappearing, people are cutting down trees and there is also the threat of bushfires. If they were to become extinct, entire ecosystems are at risk of disappearing.

Eastern Curlew

Summer

St Joseph's School, Crib Point



Sometimes when I am gathering food along the mudflats
I notice the majestic black swans gliding along the water
or diving down to eat the seagrass.

Orange-bellied Parrot



Olivia
St Mary's Primary School

The Orange-bellied Parrot is a very special bird as it is only one of two migratory parrot species in the world. They are listed as critically endangered species within the Western Port Bay area, my home. There are very few Orange-Bellied Parrots left in the wild.

Mangroves



Mangroves are thinner than a pencil.

Mangroves make a loud, popping sound at low tide, made by certain mud-burrowing bivalves (similar to mussels and clams) ...

Mangroves like to dance to the birds' songs and dance with the wind.

Luca

Wallaroo Primary School

Southern Brown Bandicoot

Soft brown fur, sleeping in grass nests ...

Digging in the ground, just like tradies ...

Nestling in burrows, shifting and shuffling around.

Twitching, turning, tumbling.

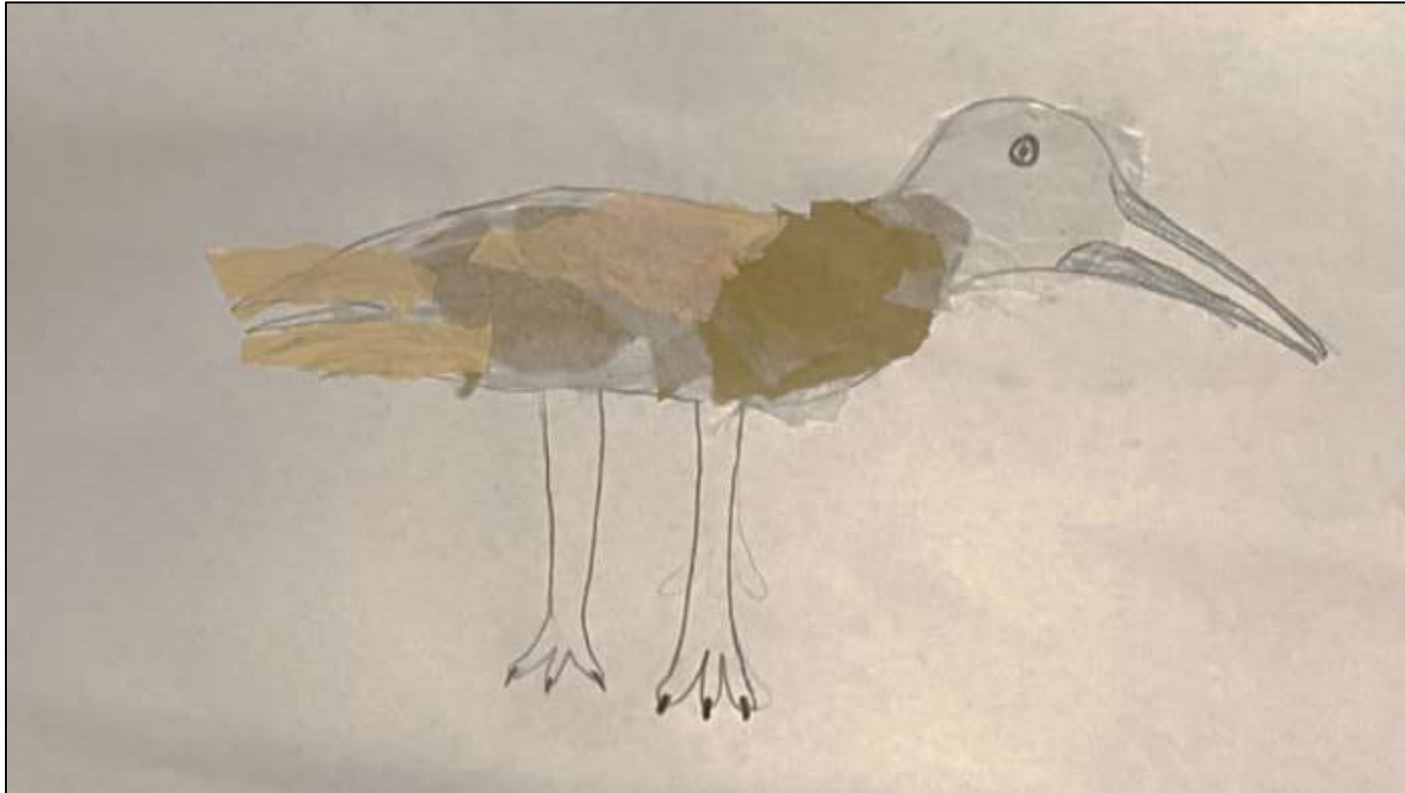


Esther
Wallaroo Primary School

Eastern Curlew

Patrick

St Joseph's School, Crib Point



I migrate to Wooley's Beach each year to escape the freezing weather in Russia and China.

I stick my long bill into the mud to find my lunch.

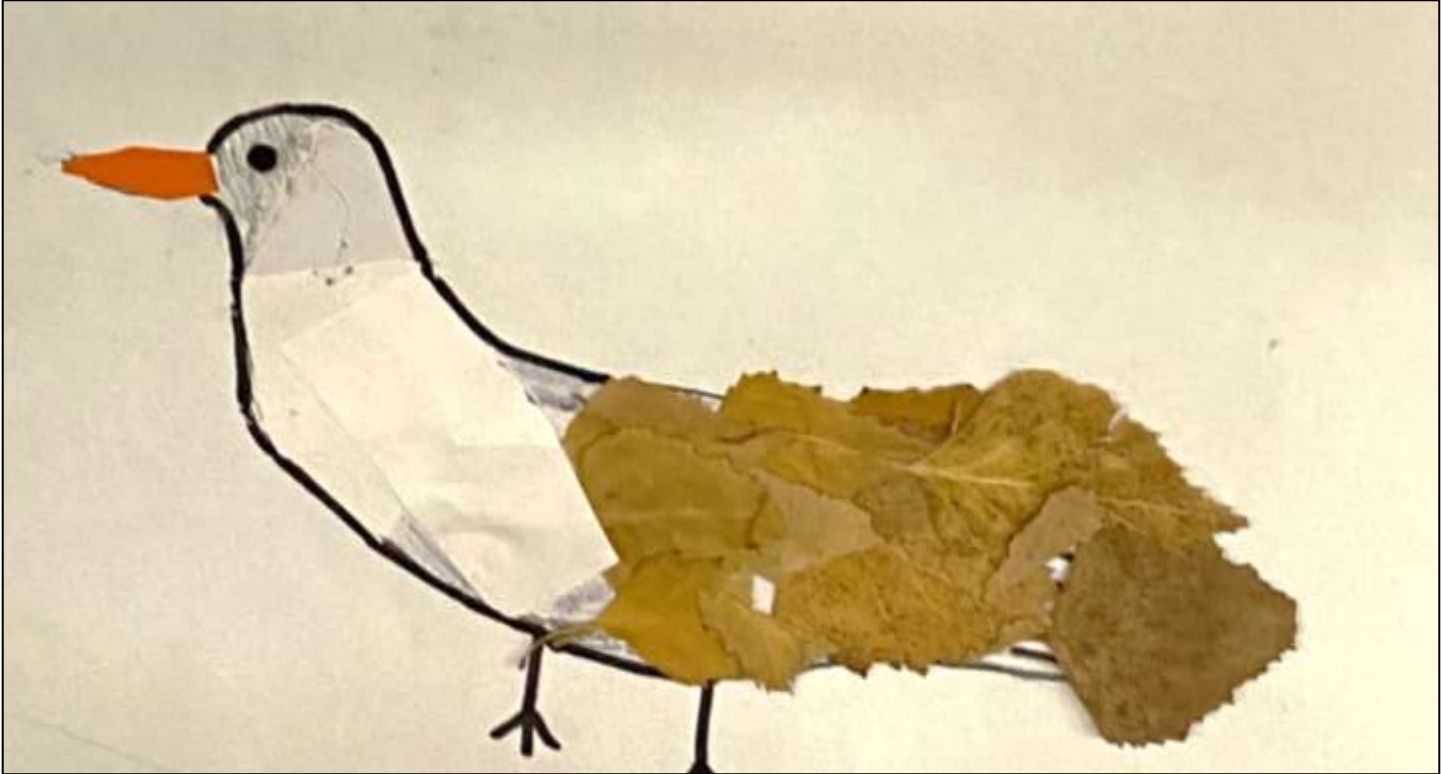
I have to fly to Woolley's Beach to find plenty of food, clean water and a safe habitat.

I would love to see you there.

Caspian Tern

Eden

St Joseph's School, Crib Point



When I am here, I can feel the gritty sand on my feet when I run along the beach and I can smell the salty spray from the waves.

I am so lucky to be at wonderful Woolley's Beach.

Sea Grass

Crash, crunch, crack, the water came down of the dense sea grass.

Dancing in the tide, the grass calmly swayed. It was as slimy as a slug on the wave.

The tall grass loved the cold water. It made the sea grass feel complete.

Twirling through the tide, the grass never stops loving the feeling of the water.

The thick sunlight peered through the water straight onto the sea grass as it were a wave.



Willow

Wallaroo Primary School



Big thanks to Sally Holdsworth and her team for bringing the Western Port Writes Festival to life.



Western Port Writes was a welcoming, informative and moving event.

Long may it continue to thrive.